

# Fact Sheet



# Do You Know About Water?



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

**Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service**

June 2002

- ☐ Approximately 80% of the earth's surface is covered with water.
- ☐ Only 1% of this water is fresh water we can use.
  - 97% is saltwater
  - 2% water frozen in glaciers
- ☐ Earth's fresh water supply is limited and threatened by pollution.
- ☐ We have the same amount of water as when the Earth was formed.
- ☐ Water moves in a never-ending cycle as nature recycles it over and over again.
- ☐ The water you drink may have been a drink for a dinosaur.
- ☐ One person uses 168 gallons of water a day.
- ☐ In 1986 the United States used over 25 trillion gallons of fresh water.
- ☐ We are using our fresh water faster than we are recharging our groundwater.
- ☐ Over 50% of our wetlands that recharge and purify ground water have been destroyed in the United States.
- ☐ Earth will not get any more water.
- ☐ Conserve water before there is no water left to conserve.

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# FACT SHEET



## Water--How to Count Your Savings



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August 1998

<i>ACTIVITY</i>	<i>NORMAL USE</i>	<i>CONSERVATION USE</i>
<b>Flushing</b>	Depends on Tank Size <b>5-7 gallons</b>	Displacement bottles in tank <b>4 gallons</b>
<b>Showering</b>	Water Running <b>25 gallons</b>	Wet down, soap down with water off, rinse <b>4 gallons</b>
<b>Bathing</b>	Tub Full <b>40 gallons</b>	Minimal water level <b>10-12 gallons</b>
<b>Shaving</b>	Tap Running <b>15 gallons</b>	Plug and Fill Basin <b>1 gallon</b>
<b>Brushing Teeth</b>	Tap Running <b>5 gallons</b>	Wet brush, turn water off, rinse <b>1/2 gallon</b>
<b>Washing Hands or Face</b>	Tap Running <b>2 gallons</b>	Plug and Fill Basin <b>1 gallon</b>
<b>Drinking</b>	Run Water to Cool <b>1 gallon</b>	Keep Water in Refrigerator <b>8 ounces</b>
<b>Cleaning Vegetables</b>	Tap Running <b>3 gallons</b>	Fill Pan with Water to Clean Vegetables <b>1/2 gallon</b>
<b>Dishwasher</b>	Full Cycle <b>16 gallons</b>	Short Cycle <b>7 gallons</b>
<b>Dishes by Hand</b>	Tap Running <b>30 gallons</b>	Wash and Rinse in Dishpan or Sink <b>5 gallons</b>
<b>Washing Clothes</b>	Full Cycle, Top Water Level <b>60 gallons</b>	Short Cycle, Minimal Water Level <b>27 gallons</b>

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